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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 12
By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Roger Perry
and the Portland High School football team on
winning the first Blue Cross Bowl.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is very proud to specially salute our best athletic teams, those exceptional squads that work hard, play smart, make sacrifices and are successful. They are superb role models for our youth; and

WHEREAS, December 2, 2000 was a very important day for the Portland High School football team because it was on that historic day that the Panthers defeated Covington 43-0 to win the prestigious first Tennessee Secondary Athletic Association Blue Cross Bowl, the state Class 3A State Championship; and

WHEREAS, Portland recorded a very rare unblemished 10-0 regular season record impressively defeating Spring Hill 31-7, White House 28-7, Franklin-Simpson 19-0, Greenbrier 39-14, Christian County 47-13, York Institute 48-3, Macon County 42-6, Springfield 41-0, Livingston Academy 20-0 and DeKalb County 59-12; and

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WHEREAS, this noble team won the Region 4-3A title beating Howard 56-0, Grundy County 61-7, White House 19-10, and Seymour 35-13; and

WHEREAS, the 15-0 Portland Panther Purple Reign produced an incredible 633 total points (42.2 points per game) and allowed only 98 points (6.53 points per game); and

WHEREAS, this was the their first state championship, after losing in the finals in 1999 and 1994; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded Head Coach Roger Perry and his able Assistant Coaches, Chris Bain, William Barham, Mike Bever, Mark Curry, Mike Duncan, Chad Perry, Billy Joe Perry and Joey Venable have done a masterful job of preparing the team for the rigors of championship play; and

WHEREAS, the members of the team were: seniors, Anthony King, Chris Seals, Kevin Eakes, Hunter Hicks, Rocky Reecer, Robert Thurman, Logan Dickens, Josh Pike, Travis Bingham, Josh Jones, Chase Brooks, Andrew Garrett, Chuck Siniff, Randy Ecker, and Will Grant; juniors, Chris Carlson, Ben West, Josh Bolton, Matt Wilson, Joel Russell, Thomas Dillard, Josh England, Jamie Clemmons, Richard DePriest, Chad Bruce, Brandon Barlow, Trey Wiseman, Darek Boyd, Ben Thornton, Josh Roberts, Scott Creekmore, Brandon Creekmore, and Jon Rose Culbreath; sophomores, Jordon Brooks, Josh Wallace, John Marstellar, Chad Keen, Michael Blackburn, Ben Spurling, Rafael Coakley, Dylan Viator, Chad Spears, Josh Dunkin, John West, Wesley Hodges, Ben Byswonger, Waylon Lamberth and Alan Napier; and freshmen, Eric Basham, Jason Brown, Brandon Williams, Justin Edison, Ben Rodriguez, Bobby Turner, Gary Lovell, Colby Pritchard, Corey Brewer, Zack King, Daniel Schmidt, Adam Roberts, Allen Linson, Anthony Sadler, Brandon Kirkham, Breck Petty, James Ferrell, DeAndre Adams, Tyler White, Antoine Woods, Jarod Roth, Josh Thurman, Scotty Gallahar, Joey McCormick, David Scruggs, Chris England and Justin Summar; each of whom has performed well and contributed to the success of the team; and

WHEREAS, Principal Janet Grogan and Athletic Director Fred Lazenby have been very supportive; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause to salute the numerous accomplishments of one of the best high school football teams ever to play in Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Roger Perry and the 2000 Portland High School football team on winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class 3A Blue Cross Bowl State Championship and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.